

## Current Happenings with In Home TN in South Central

### *Current Areas of Focus:*

The region is currently working on the priorities of Visitation Services/Centers for Kinship Care and Alcohol/Drug Treatment/Services.

The **Communication workgroup** began in August 2012 and met regularly until December 2014. The workgroup focused on increased involvement of school personnel, Community Advisory Boards, and Family Service Worker involvement.

Several “Meet and Greet” meetings have been held, beginning in May 2013. In these meetings, community stakeholders come together with DCS staff to learn about the various program areas, how to access these services, and how each unit is integrated with the other components in a family’s case. The priorities of the Communication workgroup will continue through the Regional Sustainability team.

The **Family Visitation workgroup** has also met regularly since August 2012 and is focused on the Relative Caregiver program, Therapeutic Visitation, and Kinship Care. This workgroup currently meets in combination with the Stakeholder Quality Practice Team to focus on reaching out to our faith-based partners. Through this workgroup, the region identified six visitation sites across the region by partnering with the community and faith based organizations. An on-call volunteer program has also been developed and is being piloted in Maury County. The volunteers are on call to help watch children when they are removed from their home awaiting placement and during child and family team meetings.

The **Alcohol and Drug Treatment/Services workgroup** has been meeting since January 2014. Similar to other priorities, this service array goal affects the entire region. Goals have been identified to include developing a resource list for court staff, collaborating with court staff regarding substance abuse services, and providing substance abuse education for the community. Community trainings to include Methamphetamine and Neonatal Alcohol Syndrome education have already taken place, and more are planned.

For more information about any of these workgroups, please contact the Regional Project Lead, Candi Glasscock at [Candi.Glasscock@tn.gov](mailto:Candi.Glasscock@tn.gov)

## Get involved!

Contact the Regional Project Lead, Candi Glasscock at [Candi.Glasscock@tn.gov](mailto:Candi.Glasscock@tn.gov) for information regarding any of In Home Tennessee or Community Advisory Board meetings.

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